GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:18
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2006
DELHI MUMBAI VIDEO CONFERENCE
Pallani Shamy Shri K.C .

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) propose to offer Delhi-Mumbai Video Conference as local;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which this facility is likely to be made available;

(d) whether the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) also proposes to provide the said facility in its network;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) to (c) Video Conference Call between two Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) subscribers in MTNL Delhi/Mumbai having their own equipment and ISDN line (64 kbps) is charged at local call rates. However, different tariffs will apply for a Video Conference Call requiring studio equipment, higher bandwidth etc.

(d) Yes Sir. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) provides video conferencing service to its customers in its service area.

(e) Existing customers of BSNL having ISDN or Internet Leased Line connection can use Video conferencing service. Besides this, BSNL is in the process of setting up studios at 94 cities for public use by March, 2007.

(f) Does not arise in view of (d) and (e) above.